Bio for LSR Candidate

For Division 3 Director

Boyd Patterson

Since many of my friends in the Division do not have much background information about me it was suggested that a brief accounting is appropriate. I am a 9th generation Texan. One of my great, great, great, great grandfathers fought and died at the Alamo. The family still resides here of course. After public high school in Richardson I received my Bachelor of Arts cum laude in history and philosophy at SMU and then Juris Doctor from SMU School of Law. Seven years private practice. Twenty-nine years as a state trial judge hearing felony criminal cases. Following that retirement I was recruited by Cisco Systems (the tech company, not the food vendor!) as Senior Judicial Advisor for worldwide operations – I closed government deals in the US, Europe, Africa, Pacific rim and Australia. My second and final retirement was made after five years with Cisco. Susan and I celebrated our 46th Anniversary this past July and have spent these last retirement years traveling and with our two children and four grandchildren.

For avocation I am heavily engaged in fraternal activities. I am a Past Grand Master of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas, member of the Texas Masonic Youth Foundation, Past Vice-President of the Grand Lodge Library and Museum Board of Directors, Past Chairman of the Conference of Grand Masters of North America. I also work with the young men's charity The Order of DeMolay where I previously served five years as President of the DeMolay Foundation, Inc and was the Centennial Grand Master in 2019-2020. I have been Vice-Chairman then Chairman of the Committee on Jurisprudence and Legislation for approximately 30 years. This position is roughly equivalent to General Counsel without fee.

After approximately 40 years away from the hobby I regained interest just over 9 years ago by a random and unplanned stop at the Plano train show where I discovered DCC. The Division 3 NMRA booth was

there and I was very cordially welcomed and had no trouble deciding that this group was what I needed to reenter model railroading.

Alluded to in my Nomination Form are some of the critical issues every volunteer organization faces. We must make the member experience fun and worthwhile with activities and programs geared to their needs, not an artificial set of draconian standards imposed upon the group. Compliance with NMRA rules is essential and important but it should be the several leaders who tend to the red tape so that those who merely want to improve their skills and enjoy fellowship are not dragged down by bureaucratic labor. We cannot allow a schism to develop among the members where some are made to feel less equal because their level of experience or time as a member. To the extent possible we need to provide something for everyone including all the skills for all scales, making it clear that no one is wrong because their interests are different or that they choose not to adopt some portions of the hobby. If you do not want to weather your rolling stock that is your choice so it is automatically right for you. If you do not want to scratch build and are happy with the looks of your structures right out of the box then you are doing the hobby the right way. If all you really want to do is operations without a bit of scenery but just a little sign designating this blank spot as an industry with tricky switching challenges then you are modeling the right way. Inclusion is the key, inclusion of people and programs and ideas. This leads to providing a meaningful hobby experience. If elected Director inclusion of everyone and everyone's ideas will continue to be a benchmark of our meetings and activities.